A Letter from a Nobleman in London, *to his Friend in the* Country: *Written some Months ago.*

Now Published for the Common Good.

I Assure you, Sir, whatever you have heard to the contrary, my having been in and out in the present, as well as the two former Reigns, proceeds not from any incompatibility or uncertainty of humour, bnt from a true *English* Temper and Spirit, that cannot endure Slavery in it self, and abhors to be the Instrument of it in others. I ever exclaimed against the Court Maxime, *Live and let others Live*; and watch'd my fellow Ministers actions, as I desired they would mine, that our Master might not be defrauded, nor his Subjects oppressed; and believing nothing could make *England* unhappy, but a change of our King's limited, legal Authority, into an unbounded Arbitrary Power, I always advised my Prince to a steddy conformity to the Laws, to place his security on the affections of his Subjects, which this would gain him, and not on Guards or Army. These principles were not like to make me thrive in any Court. The apprehension I had, that the late King's Religion would carry him to that extreme, made me not only weary of his Service, but uneasie under his Government, and desirous to change it for a better; which my first heat of fancy suggested I could not miss in a Protestant; bnt, my cooler thoughts, what I have already seen acted, and my Knowledge of what is further design'd convince me of my own and the Nations folly. The reports of *Char.* II's Murder, the Earl of *Essex*'s Death, and a supposititious Prince of *Wales*, all Men of common sense knew to be false and malicious; but, I confess, I looked upon the noise of a League with *France* to be real; (yet without the ridiculous and spiteful addition of cutting the Protestants throats;) because the King's circumstances, especially the proceedings in *Ireland*, made it absolutely necessary for his own preservation. Yet now 'tis plain, this also was a pure invention, and that the *Dutch*, dull as they are, have out-witted the *English*; and by a trick drawn us into a War, to defend them against *France*: Nor is it less evident, that Monsieur d'*Avaux*'s Memorial of the 9*th.* of *September* (88) to the States, (impudently pretended by the Scribler of the Desertion, to have been the cause of the long before intended Invasion,) was, though a Gentiler, as meer a Stratagem: The King, his Master, not more ascertained of the Confederacy against himself, than of the *Hollander's* Preparations against K. *J.* hop'd by this flight of Generosity, to have wrought into his Interests, Him, who before had rejected his repeated offers of succour. 'Tis no wonder each Party should labour to get *England* on their side; the ballance of *Europe* put into either scale, must of necessity have made that out-weigh the other: But now, too late, we find our King was too good a Christian, to believe his Son and Nephew could gratifie his Ambition, at so barbarous a rate; and too much an English-Man, to engage with *France*, against his Subjects Interests; which certainly was to ingross the Trade of the World, and safely look on, while the *French* and *Dutch* destroy'd each other. But alas! our want of wit, and others cunning, would not suffer us to be thus happy; fear of Slavery, artificially spred among the Gentry, and of Popery among the Commonalty, did not only make way for our ruine, but bewitched our selves to be the Instruments of it. We dreaded and roar'd against a standing Army of English, of Protestants, so zealous, that they would loose their reputation, rather than fight for their Popish King: Yet now we can kiss the rod that scourges us, tamely suffer an Army of Forreigners, of Popish, or of no Religion; who will execute, with joy, the Commands of our new K. their General; whose will, and whose interest it is to enslave us, You have long known my Opinion about Religion, and the force of it, among Men of refined Understandings: I laugh at all sorts of bigotry, and prefer our own Religion to Popery, not as more agreable to Truth, but as established by Law; Disputes of this Nature ought, in my Mind, to be banished the Common-Wealth, at least, confin'd to the Schools; nor should *I* trouble my Head, nor would any Man that wanted not Brains, what Religion a lawful Parliament put down, or set up; provided we could but be secured against Slavery, and the loss of Abby Lands. Nor need I tell you, who have as sensibly felt it, that Slavery

is not a more natural consequence of Popery, than of Presbitery, or any other Sect. If from what I write, you cannot gather why I make not the same Figure in the State I lately did, read the inclosed advice to our new K. and communicate it, but one by one, to our Friends, the Earls of *K.* and of *E.* the Bp. of----- and the rest of our knot; 'tis, Word for Word, taken from the Original, and it is what cleared my Eyes, and gave me a full prospect into the bottom of the design; which, after I had for some time laboured in vain to cross, I made a Leg and withdrew; concluding it base and ignoble, for an *English* Peer, to joyn in Council, or act in Concert with a *Dutch*-----, a *French Hugonot*, and a *Scotch Presbyterian*, under a King without Title, whose Religion is Policy, and whose *No-Title* and Policy must be supported by a strong Army, the subversion of the State, and the Conquest of *England*.

The enclosed Paper was in the following Words.

SIR,

HItherto, it is true, your Affairs seem to have succeeded prosperously; you have got a Crown, and you have got it with ease; but it cannot be preserv'd, without difficulty. Your Interest, as P. of *O.* Statholder of *Holland*, is very different from your Interest, as K. of *England*; but since you are the one, and yet for some time must be the other, your game is the harder, and requires double the skill, that when you landed was necessary. The Prince of *Orange*, as Head of the Protestant League, (which among our selves we must own this to be, notwithstanding that the *Spaniards* natural aversion to the *French*, and the growing Greatness of their Monarchy, have drawn in to it, the whole House of *Austria*, and the other Popish Princes of *Germany*,) is engaged in an Alliance, the K. of *England* ought, in prudence, to have avoided: *Charles* V. and *Philip* II. have sufficiently proved the Universal Monarchy a fantastick Dream, impracticable, impossible; besides the Nature and Scituation of the *English* Dominion, sufficiently secure it against *French* Incroachments. *England* therefore, in this conjuncture, should have stood Neuter, and enjoyed the great advantages of Commerce; whilst her Neighbors, especially the *Dutch*, her Rivals, for this reason ever to be suspected and kept under, were interrupted by War; encreased her Naval strength, by building new Ships, repairing the old, and filling her Magazines with all necessary Stores, and erected Forts and Block-houses where wanting, to secure her against Invasion. The Treaty of *Nimeguen*, if it could at all affect the late K. could not have obliged him to act otherwise: The War being on *France*'s side purely defensive; their being beforehand in declaring, after they were convinced of the Confederacy, makes no alteration; 'tis an effect of the nimbleness natural to that Nation, to make the first pass when they see their Enemies ready to fall on. But though Neutrality be the true Interest of *England*, and must have been the late King's, supposing him a Stranger to the Invasion, and sure of his Subjects, yet can it not, for the present, be yours; who have and must carry on, an Interest directly contrary to the Peoples, till you are better settled in the Throne, and have forced the *English* to be indeed your Subjects. This done, you may (as the *Dutch* did in the last Confederacy, and, as it is to be feared, they will again, when they perceive in your acceptance of the Crown, the ill effect of their own Politicks) prevent all others by a seperate Peace. In the mean time, you must mind your own, and not the Nation's Interest, and proceed with your Confederates, as Prince of *Orange*; they will, without doubt, desire, as the States have already done, that you would as K of *England*, renew and confirm the Alliance, and declare War against *France*; you will for a while stand in need of their help, and find, though they think otherwise, much greater advantage by their assistance, than they can have by yours; a Truth they cannot but discover, if they reflect upon the three principal Causes of this stupendious Revolution. First, *The temper of the* English, *a heady, rash, inconsiderate, inconstant People.* Secondly, *The incompatibility and natural aversion of Protestant Subjects to a Popish Prince*; *the Church of* England, *in vain, endeavours to exempt it self from this Character*; *their Publick Actions in the three last Reigns, their Acts of Parliament, Tests, Bill of Exclusion, and* Rye-*house Conspiracy, make them just of the same stamp with the rest*; *and they cannot, without insufferable impudence, but confess, that their pretence of peculiar contrary principles, is an empty Notion*;

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or else, that the whole People of England *are, in Practice, become Presbyterians, irreconcilable Enemies to a Popish Monarch. So gross an artifice, must not betray you, into a trust and confidence of their Loyalty, as it did your Predecessor, (who seem'd, at least, to forget the voice of the Nation,* That the Duke of *York* had no fault but his being a Papist, to make him unfit to Govern and Succeed,) *unless you will be content to run his Fortune and Reputation.* The Third *and chiefest was, the King's wants of an Army; which, he could not be properly said to have, so long as they were Protestants, (the few Papists among them deserv'd not to be considered under a Name) and taught, it was against Conscience to* draw *in defence of a Popish K. the event has shewn that Religion had padlocked their Swords, and bound up their Hands, otherwise he could never have picked up and trained such a number of Men, all resolved either to fight against him, or run away from him.* These, Sir, are the Shelves on which he was shipwracked, as you likewise must be, unless you steer a contrary course. Your new Subjects will be still the same, and, upon second thoughts, cannot but repent, what inconsideration made them Act hand over head; your being a Protestant Will not secure you: the odds between a Dutch Presbyterian, and an English Papist, are, in the Church of *England* Men's Opinion, either none at all, or so very inconsiderable, that they cannot turn the Scales, or give you any advantage. You are sensible with what difficulty your Party, in the two Houses, got the better of those who were for calling back K. *J.* on terms, and of those who were for setting up a Common-Wealth: These two Parties will always be your Enemies, you cannot hope to make them Converts; nor that the third will be long, either willing, or able to support your Cause: So that nothing but an Army can do your business: an Army, to the number of fifty or sixty thousand, not of English, but Outlandish men: who will fight to make you great, what a K. ought, and what the K. of *England* needs most to be, Master of his Subjects. *Ireland*'s standing out, which seems a Cross, is, on the contrary, a Blessing, an opportunity, that well managed and improved, will establish your Dominion. Till you have gained this point, you must not only keep fair, but Court and Flatter the Parliament, at least, till you have engaged them in a War with *France*, and the reduction of *Ireland*; which you must so contrive, that both may be the effect of their own advice. Your seeming to share the Soveraignty, they have long ambitioned, is the most proper bait to catch your Fish; it will persuade them to find Money for the expence, and hereafter screen you from the Peoples murmurings. You have already given orders for modelling the Fleet and Army, and wisely resolved to imploy in neither, nor in Civil Offices, any English, but such as are Men of no Fortune, or irreconcileable Enemies to your Predecessor. Endeavour to keep, if possible, all the Dutch Troops, and to exchange for them as many English; the *Nimeguen* Treaty, in which, if for no other reason, you must pretend the Nation engaged, will rid you of 8000 of 'em; some you may dispatch towards *Chester*, in order to the Irish Expedition; and others you may march towards the borders, to be called into *Scotland*, in case *Makay* should find himself too weak, to aw the Convention and reduce *Edinburg* Castle. *Scotland* is too dangerous a back door to be left open; you ought therefore to be well secured of it, before you think of carrying your Arms further; the Nobility and Presbytery govern there absolutely; you have already a list of both, with convenient remarks; all sorts of Coin will pass among them, and 'tis very necessary you prevent, by good store of Guineas, the course of Luid'or's, in a Kingdom long allied to *France*, and heretofore useful in their Wars with *England*. You cannot better dispose of the Irish in the Isle of *Wight*, than by making them a present to the Emperor, for his Wars against the Turk, to prevent desertion, if imployed neerer home. When matters are thus settled, you may safely turn your Face towards *Ireland*, where, though you could, you ought not to make an end of the War in one Summer: though of this caution there seems little need: considering, that the long Parliament was not able, with an old Army of 36000. and a treasure of several Millions, to Master it, in less than four years, from *June* 49 till *September* 53. when destitute of Forreign Assistance, broken into Factions, spent and impoverished by a seven years Rebellion and Civil War; a condition very different from their present. They have enjoyed the fruits of a long Peace, are united as one Man, thousands of 'em have learn'd the Art of War abroad, and were not reputed to want courage: yet, allowing them as great Cowards as they are now represented, being driven to a Wall, by such a concern as they have at

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ſtake, their All, Life, Liberty, Fortune, and Religion, they cannot but fight manfully, eſpecially when headed by their own Prince, and ſupported by *France*. K. *James's* overſights here, will inſtruct him how to act there; the Proteſtants he will diſarm, and impriſon, at leaſt, the Chief of them, and ſeize all their Corn and Cattel: *Londonderry*, if he do not take, he will ſtarve, before you can ſuccour it: and, the Papiſts being reckoned twenty to one Proteſtant, he cannot want men for ſeveral Armies; nor Arms, Ammunition, nor Money, while the French K. ſtands his Friend; who thereby eludes the threatned Invaſion from *England*, diſtracts and weakens its Power, and imploys the whole of it, without the leaſt ſervice or advantage to the Confederates; and who, perhaps, will further enable him to land ſome thouſands in *Scotland*; 'tis a ſhort cut to the Highlands, where they will be joyned by greater Numbers of thoſe wild People, who long for an opportunity to enrich themſelves by the ſpoils of *England*. Whence it is plain, that the reduction of *Ireland*, is like to prove a Work of time, and of much greater difficulty, than the Proteſtants of that Kingdom would perſwade you; and you will find that a compleat Conqueſt of it will require vaſt numbers of Men, divided into ſeveral Armies, and your being Maſter, not only at Sea, but alſo your imploying, conſtantly, a ſecond Fleet, to tranſport hence Proviſions, for the ſubſiſtence of thoſe Armies. The fatigues of the firſt Campaign, lying in the Field, ſcarcity of Victuals, and the Flux, which the Engliſh never miſs, and therefore call it that Country Diſeaſe. will diſcourage your new Subjects, conſume their beſt Troops, and make Men, already effeminated by idleneſs and Luxury, (the uſual Concomitants of Peace and Trade,) quite weary of the Service. However, the importance of *Ireland* to *England*, the Trade, Strength, and Safety of this, depending upon that Kingdom's being continued a Member of its Dominion, will neceſſitate the Parliament to beg your regaining it on any terms, and conſent, for that purpoſe, to your bringing in *Danes*, *Swedes*, *Germans*, *Dutch*, and *Swiſſers*; who, having done your work in *Ireland*, will afterwards with eaſe perfect it here, make you the moſt abſolute Prince, that ever ſway'd the Sceptre of *England*. But, in the mean time, you muſt not ſeem to affect any ſuch thing, but rather ſeem content with the Name of King, and to leave the Power to the Parliament, chiefly to the Commons, who holding the Purſe-ſtrings of the Nation, ought to have moſt of your compliance and condeſcentions: As for the Lords, 'tis enough to engage in your Intereſts, by charges of Honour, rather than profit, as many as you can of the rich and popular: their Numbers, as well as other accidents, have made their Houſe the leſs conſiderable of the two; and it will be for your ſervice to treat them accordingly. After all, you muſt preſuppoſe the Engliſh will, ere long, grow weary of your Government; and alſo that the Confederates may come to be ſo of the War, before you are able to ſtand upon your own Legs: the extraordinary charge muſt make the Firſt uneaſie; and the others, diſappointed of your promiſed aſſiſtance, may poſſibly give credit to what your Enemies will ſuggeſt, that you have out-witted them, and ſollicited a League more to gratifie your own Ambition, than for the Common Good, to humble *France*. The Parliament having once adviſed you to the War, will be too far engaged to draw back, or think of a change; but to make your ſelf ſure on that ſide, you muſt haſten your Army to hinder it, in caſe they ſhould: To prevent the misfortune from abroad, you muſt ſpeedily poſſeſs your Allies, by Envoys and Miniſters, that the Crown of *England* was freely offered, and not ſought by you; that the diſpoſal on't was the People's Right; and that their aſſiſtance to confirm you in the Poſſeſſion is neceſſary, to hinder the Common Enemies being enabled, as otherwiſe he certainly will, by the late King's united Power, to ſwallow the Spaniſh Netherlands, ſubdue Holland, and give Law to the Empire and the reſt of *Europe*. Your Proteſtant Allies you muſt perſwade, by remonſtrating the neceſſity of their firm adheſion, on a double account, *Religion*, and *Temporal Intereſt*. The States you muſt ſweeten, more particularly by repaying their 600000 *l.* and farther promiſing what advantages they pleaſe in the Trade of both the *Indies*. Nor muſt you ſpare the Wealth of *England*, to draw the *Dane* and *Swede* into a ſtricter Alliance: the firſt may probably be won by the proſpect of his Brother's Intereſt in the Succeſſion: and the latter prevailed upon by a conſiderable yearly Penſion, unleſs a foreſight of his own future ruine from Denmark, when ſtrengthned by Prince *George's* Poſſeſſion of the Crown of *England*, ſhould make him deaf to your Propoſals. It were to be wiſhed the late King were not before-hand

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with you, in ſending abroad his Agents, and filling all Courts of his own profeſſion with his Manifeſto's; making a jeſt of the Parliament and its Pretences, his own Abdication, and your Election; juſtifying all his Actions, even the Diſpenſing Power, as conformable to the Laws and eſſential to the nature of all Government; acquitting himſelf from all things, but his being a Papiſt; repreſenting the League to be all over Proteſtant, and deſign'd, at laſt, for the total overthrow of the Popiſh Religion: You know how much this Prince is the Jeſuits Darling, and what influence they have in the Emperor's and all other Courts of *Europe*; and how probable it is that upon this Pope's Death, which cannot be far off, another may be choſen, more zealous for the promotion of his Religion, than for pulling down *France*, its chief ſupport; which conſiderations cannot but quicken you in this point. Now, that you may begin your Reign, as Princes in your circumſtances uſed to do, by ſome Acts of Popularity, recommend to the Parliament the taking off the Chimney-Money, (which ſeems a burden on the poorer ſort: you need not fear but what they thus take away with one hand, they muſt give back with another, till they have put you into a condition to carve for your ſelf:) and alſo a Bill of Union, or Comprehenſion, of all your Proteſtant Subjects; and though it is poſſible neither may ſucceed, eſpecially the laſt, to which the Church Party are not like to conſent; the Clergy in Poſſeſſion having always been averſe to any change in their Popiſh Common-Prayer-Book, and much more to let others ſhare their Titles and Benefices; the Propoſitions nevertheleſs will be very advantageous to you, in the love and eſteem of the generality of the People. As for Religion, (the common Cloak for Rebellion, but never a ſecurity againſt one,) you ought to conſider it, and the ſeveral Sects into which it is divided, no farther than as may beſt ſerve and promote your Intereſt: In publick ſeem to favour the Church of *England*, becauſe the Laws, the Nobility, and beſt eſtated Gentry are of its ſide; underhand, the Presbyterians, and other Nonconformiſts are to be careſſed; the Numbers, the Trade, the Riches, and your Proteſtant Allies are of their ſide; the Romaniſts you muſt likewiſe ſtudy to oblige; this may poſſibly in time wean them from K. *J.* and will pleaſe a conſiderable part of your Army, and your Confederates of the ſame Opinion; who muſt be taught to infer from your Actions, that what is in your Declaration againſt Popery, as your Miniſters abroad muſt alſo inſinuate, was only a Blind, a neceſſary Cant to perſwade the Engliſh to receive, and the Parliament to enable you to invade *France* the following Spring, by obliging their King to joyn in the War, the main end of your hazardous Winter Voyage. Thus, Sir, in obedience to your Commands, we have freely and briefly given your Majeſty our Opinion; concluding, that Cowardize, Treachery, and an innate deſire of Change having given you the Crown, nothing can ſecure it, but ſuch a formidable Army as we have deſcribed; this when you have compaſſed, you may ſafely aſſume the Title of *Conqueror*, and, after the Example of *W.* the Firſt, reſerve for your Self what Land you pleaſe, and divide the reſt among your Followers; ſettle in all your Dominions, ſuch Religion, Laws, and form of Government, as ſhall beſt ſuit with your own Grandeur, and the extent of your Empire: But if you truſt an Engliſh Army, though never ſo great, and deſpiſe our advice, the touchſtone of ſincere Councellors, your Reign will be ſhort, and your Ruine inevitable: For when your Subjects reflect, they have changed a firm Peace for a laſting War, that the Flower of their *Youth* is deſtroyed, by Land and Sea, their Freedom from Taxes turned into a Grievous Load of endleſs Impoſitions, their Trade loſt, their Rents fallen, and the Nation reduced from a Rich and Glorious, to a poor contemptible People; and to compleat their Miſery, next door to be enſlaved by Foreigners, that they have brought all theſe Evils upon themſelves, to ſecure their Religion, now really expoſed to *Calviniſm* or *Lutheraniſm*, extreams, in their Opinions, equally pernicious with *Popery*; of which, before, the danger was indeed but imaginary; they will, without doubt, repent, and contrive ſuch a general Revolution, as happen'd in 1660. when both the Fleet and the numerous Army, in the three Kingdoms, conſpired with the reſt of the Engliſh to call back their exil'd Prince. The ſame cauſes cannot but produce the ſame effects; you will therefore live to ſee your ſelf more ſhamefully fly out of *England*, than you came into it triumphantly, if the deſire of

Fame, and the ſenſe of your own ſafety, make you not betimes provide againſt the Storm, and imprint on your Mind, that it is more Great and Glorious, to owe a Crown to Merit, than to Chance; to get a Kingdom by Conqueſt, rather than by Birth:

Which is humbly ſubmitted, &c.

I Have, at laſt, after above four Months irreſolution, concluded, I could not better ſerve my Friend, or my Country, than by publiſhing his Letter, and the good Advice given our new King; every Body will ſee a Plot is laid for the ruine of *England*; and none can wonder, a Lord, of his great Senſe and great Eſtate, ſhould refuſe to be an Actor in the Tragedy; wherein he would not have ſeem'd, ſo long, to have born a part, as he has ſince often vow'd, if he had not had the vanity, to have hoped he could have perſwaded his Maſter to have been an Engliſh K. to have made good his Declarations, his Promiſes, and his Oaths, to have ſent back his Forreign Troops, and called a free Parliament, to reform and ſettle all our Diſorders: But had not he had a large ſhare in our common infatuation, one ſo renown'd could not have expected this from the P. of O. Who could not be well ſuppoſed to have made them, but with purpoſe to break them, as ſoon as they had ſmooth'd his way to the Crown; no Man in his Wits could imagine, he meant to be a Slave to his Word, or *truſt the Loyalty of Men, become his Subjects, by Treachery to their own Prince*; and it was more ridiculous to believe, That, after he got to be K. *he would make good the obligations he had, in order to it, put himſelf under*, than it would be for a Wife, to hope from her Huſband, the performance of the Vows he made her when a Lover. *He that, without regard to Humane or Divine Laws, had Uſurped upon the Rights of an Uncle, Brother, Father, and Wife, was not like to be reſtrained by Rules of his own preſcribing.* We are well enough ſerv'd, and can juſtly blame none but our ſelves, He underſtands his Intereſt and purſues it, though we did, and ſtill do, groſsly miſtake ours. Our Treaſons have been uſeful to him, and he rewards us with hatred and contempt, and cannot believe himſelf ſafe, unleſs he make us Slaves. He will force us, with the Aſs in the *Apologue*, dearly to repent our change of Maſters. And if we do not account a laſting War, both at Sea and Land, inſupportable Taxes, loſs of Trade, hundreds of our Ships (and among them not a few Royal ones) loſt by Storm, and made Prize by *France*; 14000 of our Army, that was to have Conquered *Ireland* before laſt *Michaelmas*, deſtroyed without fighting, eaten up by Lice, Flux, and Famine; and above 5000 of that in *Flanders* loſt by Hunger, Diſeaſe, and Deſertion; 7000 of our ill-man'd Fleet Dead, and above 4000 more Sick; moſt poyſon'd by ſtinking rotten Victuals, for want of French Salt; an evil like to continue next year alſo; unleſs we, who are far from being Maſters at Sea, can take it by force; frequent Robberies, barbarous Murders, and licentious Extravagancies, of *Danes* and *Germans*, tokens of the Wrath of Heaven, and puniſhments for our *crime*, We ſhall be concluded to have as little fear of God, as we have had Honour for the K. But all this we ſuffer, and *more we are yet like to ſuffer*, to be delivered from the frightful Bugbears of Popery; from Fire and Fagot, broiling and burning in *Smithfield* and St. *Johns's*; dangers, only of our own deviſing, whiſpered about by Knaves, and ſwallowed by Fools: To avoid being conſumed by theſe painted Flames, we have plunged our ſelves into a real Sea of Miſery, and without a Miracle (which we Proteſtants, who believe them ceaſed, muſt not hope for) cannot ſcape drowning. We have long complained of a Deſign, in the three laſt Reigns, to introduce the French Form of Government, and ſubvert our own; make the Parliament a Cypher, ſerve for nothing, but to burthen the Nation with Taxes, to ſupport a Standing Army, and make our Kings Abſolute. If ever there was ground for this Outcry, there is at this day, when the Name of Parliament is made uſe of, to unhinge the very Fundamentals, undermining in few Hours, by a ſervile compliance with an Uſurper, our Laws, our beloved *Magna Charta*, what our Anceſtors were a building up, hundreds of years, with a great deal of Toil and Blood, to enable their new *Maſter* by exceſſive Impoſitions, four Millions, and 800000 *l. Sterl.* over and above the ordinary Revenue, in leſs than one years time, to raiſe an Army, under pretence of un-neceſſary and deſtructive Wars, not of *Engliſh*, but of *Strangers*; not

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to conquer others, but to *enslave our selves*; so bare-faced a violation of our Rights and Liberties, was never before attempted by any of our Lawful Kings, or their reputed Pensioners: But is not this the Summ Total of our Convention, nick-named Parliament, proceedings? What good this immense profusion of our Treasure has produced, is but too well known: Nor can it but Stomack every true English-Man, that 600000 *l.* of it should be given to the States of *Holland, for contributing to our Ruine*, to serve themselves; their *Manifesto* of the 28*th.* of *October*, has told us plainly, but falsly, *That having understood the Kings of* France *and* England, *had entred into a League, to subvert their State, they had therefore assisted the P. of O. in his enterprise.* Had there been any such League, our K. would not have refused the French King's offered Succours; which were sufficient to have prevented our Calamities, and the loss of his Crown: But from a Common-Wealth of Merchants and Hucksters, whose Policy and Religion is Interest and Gain, we are not to expect Truth, or Integrity, Conscience, or Honour. Our Parliament had no sooner perfected the Money Bills, and resolved, with a true zeal, and the wonted courage of their Predecessors, to rouse themselves up from their shameful slumbers, and enter in good earnest upon methods of redressing the mismanagement of the *Revenue*, the *ill conduct of the Fleet, non-payment of Seamens wages, starving the Armies in* Flanders *and* Ireland, *the false Musters in all*, the *Navy Commanders pirating upon our Merchants*, the *Dutch and Danish Insolencies*, the *illegal free-quartering of Soldiers*, our other *many Publick Grievances*, and the *ill state of the Nation*, than they were kicked out of Doors, as impertinent Medlers in what was not their proper business, with a *surprising Prorogation*, and a *ridiculous harangue*; deserving the credit, the exact performance of his former Declarations and Speeches have taught us to give; *That he is sorry the Taxes are so heavy on the People, and that he intends to free them from the charge, by a speedy reduction of* Ireland; against his Interest and his Practice, pursuant to the *excellent advice* given him; all which plainly prove, the spinning out this War, is the only certain way to his End, *a Despotick Arbitrary Power*: The Demonstrations of this Truth, and our Misery, are but too many, and too evident. His now summoning another *Convention of Lords and Commons*, by the Name of *Parliament*, is not to remove, or lessen our burden, not to satisfie, but amuse, by Coaxing and Cajoleries, the City and Country enraged at their Oppressions and the unexpected dissolution of the former, to gain time, for bringing in the rest of his Body of Foreigners, the intended Instruments of our Slavery, and to try, whether the Church of *England*-Men, whom he inwardly hates and fears, will be catched with chaff, prove kinder, greater fools than the Presbyterians, grant him more Money, more than the already impoverish'd Nation can bear, enough to enable him to compass his *End, an Absolute boundless Power*, under the plausible pretence of reducing *Ireland*; which, reduced his way, would indeed put an end to *Parliament Taxes*, but not to his more Grievous *Impositions*. He thinks it mean to cringe, and court, and ask for Money, and longs to throw off his Vizard, to be in a condition to take it as his own, when, and in what proportion he shall please. If his common Cant, and empty Words, which he has been always used to give, prevail with his new *Parliament*, he will soon despise his equally bubbled *Conformist* and *Nonconformist Friends*; laugh at all our Constitutions, and know no Law, but his own *Will*, and in the stile of *Our*, by him much envied, *Neighbor*, enforce his Edicts, to which Acts of Parliament must give place, with a *For such is our pleasure*; the only reason he would fain give of all his Actions. His Counsels, and his Proceedings here, and in *Holland*, sufficiently speak his Imperious Humor, and that this is his ultimate design. If he would give the World the lye, and be gloriously just to himself, to his *Word*, to his *Honour*, and the good of *England*, which he pretends so much to affect, let him send back his *Troops* of *Strangers*, lay aside his *Crown*, and propose to both Houses at their Meeting, in *March*, the *rewarding his extraordinary zeal for the Protestant Cause*, the *calling a Legal Free Parliament*, to compose all our Disorders, and so to settle our Government for the future, that there may be no possibility of overturning our Laws, or our Religion, whether the Sovereign happen to be a Protestant, or a Papist, (he must be a stranger to *Germany*, and the *Power of Parliaments*, that thinks such a contrivance impossible,

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or Impracticable, Jhis desire that what is past may be pardoned, and the Succession continued and provided for in the right Line, beyond the hazard of any illegal interuption. Such a generous proposition would quickly regain, and for ever establish our Peace and Trade, restore the distracted People to their Wits, and to their love of him, and prove no small argument to convince the many *Gainsayers*, that the P. of *O*----'s *Dominion*, though short, was *founded in Grace*: But if, instead of this Heroick God-like temper, he should still insist, as we have cause to fear, upon his no-right of Possession, and playing the K. press for more Subsidies, or, which is *tantamount*, a fond to enable him to raise his projected Army, for other ends than that specious one of *Ireland*: I hope the H. of Commons will be so sharp sighted, so honest and so wise, as to observe the Snake hid under this Grass, hold their hands, and not do his business, before their own and the Nations'; not part with a Shilling, till they have first secur'd us against Conquest and Slavery. They, who represent the People, need not be told, the generality of *England* wait but for the word, to shew they are yet able and ready to back them with Lives and Fortunes, in the defence of their Liberty, Properties and Religion, when, and however they in Christian Politicks shall prescribe. The Armed strangers, which we, forgetful of Danish cruelties, have suffered to Land, are yet too few, to master our Women; but if there be not an immediate stop put to their Inundation, they will soon be an unequal Match, even for our Men. Upon the whole Matter, *Instead of a* Moses, *a Deliverer, as we were made believe, we have found a* Pharoah, *a heavy Task-Master; and, like true Northern Heroes, have caught a* Tartar *with a Witness; and unless we resolve to shew our selves Men,* English-Men, *alike zealous for Glory, Liberty, and Life; and speedily call for Succour, a Free Parliament, and our old King, which alone can make one, we shall be devoured by Foreigners at home, and become the scorn of all the World abroad.*

Dat. 8. *of Feb.* 1689.

FINIS.